



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/000,924	12/30/97	HASEBE	T 1083.1048/JD

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LM02/0929

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2764

DATE MAILED:

09/29/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/000,924	Applicant(s) Hasebe et al.
Examiner Cuong H. Nguyen	Group Art Unit 2764

Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/30/97 (the IDS, & priority paper).

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the communication received on 12/30/97 (the IDS, & priority papers).
2. Claims **1-17** are pending in this application.
3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

4. This application has been filed with 11 sheets of formal drawings, and they are approved by the draftsman.

The following rejections are based on the examiner's best interpretation of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims **1-5, 9, 12, 15** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Hasebe et al. (US Pat. 5,392,351), in view of Hasebe et al. (US Pat. 5,761,651), further in view of Hasebe et al. (US Pat. 5,832,083).

A. Referring to claim 1: The claim is directed to a data protection system, comprising:

- means for storing data (this limitation is in claims 4, 9, 15, and they are very obvious with cited prior arts; see at least Hasebe et al. '351 claim 8);

- storage means for storing data (this limitation is in claims 1, 4, 9; see at least Hasebe et al. '651 Figs. 1, 5 ref.303 for obviousness);

- working/preparing means with input data (this limitation is in claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 15, it comprises a different/broad term for actions comprising: preparing, generating, appending, displaying data .etc. and they are very obvious with cited prior arts, see at least Hasebe et al. '351 3:47-56 for obviousness);

- means for generating information relating to input data (which is to be utilized in prepared data) (e.g. judging means, this limitation is in claims 1, 9, 12; see at least Hasebe et al. '651 6:8-17, 50-65; see also Hasebe et al. '083 Fig.10 (refs. 1009, 1010), Fig.16 (refs. 1607, 1608), & Figs. 18-19 for obviousness);

- comparing/judging means if using input data (this limitation is in claims 1, 4, 9 - see Hasebe et al. '651 6:8-17, 50-65, Figs. 8-9; see also Hasebe et al. '083 Figs. 4 (ref. 2), 7, 8(ref.2a), 13-14, 16);

- means for updating/appending/adding generated information to prepared data (this limitation is in claims 1, 12) (see at least Hasebe et al. '651 claim 12 for obviousness);

- means for displaying (prepared)/input data (this limitation is in claims 1, 12); (see at least Hasebe et al. '083

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Figs.4(ref.5), 5; Fig.20 (refs.2014, 2016); see also Hasebe et al. '651 Fig.2 for obviousness); and

Hasebe et al. do not specifically teach about means for forbidding saving (input) data. (this limitation is in claims 1, 4, 9);

However, the examiner submits that this limitation is well-known in the art; e.g. a decision-making query/instruction for a similar task ("not saving data if ...): because it is simply an optional query/instruction that it would be recognized as useful to put in a computerized system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to suggest a system for combining the teaching references to apply above limitation in the disclosure of Hasebe et al., because this would increase extra flexible options for a data protection system.

B. Referring to claims 4, 9, 12, 15: The limitations of these claims recite similar claims' limitations (of fewer limitations) as claim 1 discussed above. The same analysis and reasoning set forth above in the rejection of claim 1 applied to these claims also because they cover a similar method/system/device that doing same steps with similar means as the above system.

C. Referring to claim 2: Claim 2 is directed to a data protection system, further comprising:

means for executing cut & paste; and
means for forbidding cut & paste (data).

The rationales for rejection of claim 1 are incorporated.

The examiner submits that these 2 limitations are very obvious & well-known because they would present a well-known feature (as options) to one with skills in the art.

D. Per claims 3, 5:

The rationales for rejection of claim 1 are incorporated.

1. Referring to claim 3: This claim is directed to a data protection system with means for judging (input) data is encrypted data; and means for determining allowed/permited data (see also Hasebe et al. '651 3:46-54 for obviousness).

The examiner submits that limitations for this claim are already discussed in claim 1 above. The rationales for rejection are similar.

2. Referring to claim 5: The limitations of this claim recite the same claim's limitations (of fewer limitations) as claim 3 discussed above. The same analysis and reasoning set forth above in the rejection of claim 3 applied to these claims also because it covers similar limitations as the above system.

E. Referring to claim 6: This claim is dependent of claim 4, a limitation is a difference between original data to be worked and the data after. The rationales for rejection of claim 4 are

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incorporated. This limitation is obvious since it is an option to distinguish between old and new data with comparison means; see also Hasebe et al. '651 5:32-35 for obviousness).

F. Referring to claim 7: It is directed to a data protection system, comprising:

means for displaying (original) data, and updated data.

The rationales for rejection of this claim is similar as in claim 1/4.

6. Claims **10-11** are directed to a data protection system, comprising limitations that rationales for rejection of claims 1/9 are incorporated:

A. Re. Claim 10: A limitation is means for distributing data (see at least Hasebe et al. '083 Figs. 14, 19 (ref.1910), and 20 (ref. 2014) for obviousness);

B. Re. Claim 11: A limitation is means for distributing (update) data (see at least Hasebe et al. '083 Fig. 21 for obviousness).

7. Referring to claim 8: The limitation in this claim is quite obvious with one of skills in the art to add an option as storage means includes means for adding information (The rationales for rejection of claims 1/4 are incorporated; then see at least Hasebe et al. '651 claim 12).

8. Referring to claims 13, 16:

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A. Per claim 13: The limitations in these claim are quite obvious with one of skills in the art:

judging (yes or no) (there is a license for utilizing data.
(same claim's limitation as #1.f, and #9) ; and
means for permitting/allowing input data to be displayed.
(same claim's limitation as in claim #1).

The same rationales for rejection of claims 1/13/15 is used herein.

B. Referring to claim 16:

The limitations of this claim recite the same claim limitations as claim 13 above. The same analysis and reasoning set forth in the rejection of claim 13 applied to this claim also because it covers a device that having similar means.

9. Referring to claim 14: The limitation in this claim (#14) is obvious and well-known with one of skills in the art: The data preparation device/protection system wherein the balance of the charge is used as the license (because it is still less than a maximum balance available; with rationales for rejections of claims 1/12 are incorporated).

10. Referring to claim 17: The limitation of this claim recite the same claim's limitation as claim 14 discussed above. The same analysis and reasoning set forth above in the rejection of

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claim 14 applied to this claim also because it covers a device that including similar means.

Conclusion

11. Claims 1-17 are rejected.
12. The attached references are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Cuong H. Nguyen, whose telephone number is (703)305-4553. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM-4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Box Issue Fee Amendments

Amendments

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

c/o Technology Center 2700

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications
intended for entry)

Or:

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(703) 305-0040 (for informal or draft communications,
please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Cuong H. Nguyen
August 30, 1999

James P. Trammell
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2700